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EXAMINER

THAI, CUONG T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/851,466

Applicant(s)

ROSEN, MIKE

Examiner

CUONG T THAI

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-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Response filed on Aug./23/04.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6, 17 and 27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 33-35 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7-15, 18-25 and 28-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 16, and 26 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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FINAL ACTION

1. This action is responsive to response filed on August/23/2004.
2. Claims 1-35 are presented for examination. Claims 6, 17, 27 are canceled.
3. The proposal drawing correction of Figs. 1-4B filed on Feb/17/2004 have been reviewed and approved by the Examiner. However, formal drawings for these corrections are required to be submitted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-4, 7-15, 18-25, and 28-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shuping et al. (USPN: 6,313,855) hereinafter Shuping in view of Eichel (USPN: 6,459,435).

As per claims 1 (method) and 22 (computer readable medium), Shuping discloses a method of browsing the World Wide Web comprising the steps of:

Relating Web pages on said World Wide Web to each other consistent with a spatial organization is taught by Shuping as the technique of a past Web page, a current Web page, and a future Web page (see col. 2, lines 34-35) in a three dimensional space (see col. 2, lines 45-46) and more particular, Fig. 9 illustrated a Web

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browser 900 operating in a three dimensional environment that includes a current panel 910, a plurality of past panels 920 and a plurality of future panels 930 (see col. 9, lines 60-63 and see Fig. 9);

Simultaneously displaying multiple Web pages in multiple panels of a display in a manner consistent with spatial organization is taught by Shuping as the technique of rendering the current web page in a first panel, renders the past web page in a second panel, and renders a future web page in a third panels. The panels for rendering the various Web pages are provided in a three dimensional space (see col. 2, lines 35-46);

Allowing a user surfing the World Wide Web to move a Web page between panels of said display is taught by Shuping as the technique of user 110 may view one or more past web pages 225 in the past panel 220 contemporaneously with current web page 215 in current panel 210 (see col. 5, lines 37-39);

Designating at least one of said Web pages as an always there page is taught by Shuping as the technique of when a user 110 designates a particular Web page 225, 235 as a sticky Web page, that Web page 225, 235 remains at the designated location on the respective wall 320, 330 regardless of changes in current Web page 215 (see col. 8, lines 31-35);

Responsive to a user moving a Web page between panels, automatically moving others of said Web pages among said panels, except said always there page and any page that, responsive to said movement would otherwise appear in said panel occupied by said always there page, in a manner that is consistent with said spatial organization is taught by Shuping as the technique of in operation, when a user 110 selects a new

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Web page, current web page 215 is transferred to past panel 220. To accommodate this transfer, the present invention shift past web pages 225 by one web page location thereby eliminate one web page from past panel 220 (see col. 5, lines 46-50) and when the user 110 selects a particular past Web page 225 (for example, past Web page 225A), the particular past Web page 225 on past wall 320 becomes current Web page 215 on current 310. Likewise, when user 110 selects a particular future Web page 235 (for example, future Web page 235A), the particular future Web page 235 on future wall 330 becomes current web page 215 on current wall 310 (see col. 8, lines 20-28).

However, any past Web pages 225 and future Web pages 235 may become sticky Web pages on their respective walls 320 and 330. When a user 110 designates a particular Web page 225, 235 as a sticky Web page, that Web page 225, 235 remains at the designated location on the respective wall 320, 330 regardless of changes in current Web page 215 (see col. 8, lines 28-35);

Causing said always there page to remain in a particular panel regardless of movement of other web pages is taught by Shuping as the technique of when a user 110 designates a particular Web page 225, 235 as a sticky Web page, that Web page 225, 235 remains at the designated location on the respective wall 320, 330 regardless of changes in current Web page 215 (see col. 8, lines 31-35) and if user 110 designates future Web page 235A as a sticky web page, future Web page 235A remains in the illustrated location regardless of new future Web pages 235 generated from hyperlinks 240 on any new current Web pages 215 selected during subsequent browsing (see col. 8, lines 38-43).

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Shuping, however, does not disclose designating said Web pages responsive to data contained in said at least one Web page.

Eichel discloses designating said Web pages responsive to data contained in said at least one Web page as the technique of from the home page, a visitor can access other files and applications at a web site (see col. 8, lines 1-2).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Eichel's teaching of designating said Web pages responsive to data contained in said at least one Web page into Shuping's sticky page invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing user capable of accessing linked data contained in home page and also allowing user capable of assigning or designating home page as sticky page as taught by Shuping. Thus, the system would direct user monitor and back to the sticky home page while user surfing the Web.

As per claim 12, the limitation of organizing and displaying separate computer files was treated by the Examiner as the method of browsing multiple Web pages as seen in claim 1 above. And due to the similarity of this claim to that of claim 1, this claim is therefore rejected for the same reasons applied to claim 1.

As per claims 2 (method), 13 (method), and 23 (computer readable medium); the limitation of responsive to movement by said user of a page displayed in one of said panels to another panel, moving said pages displayed in other of said panels

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correspondingly, except for said always there page is taught by Shuping as the technique of in operation, when a user 110 selects a new Web page, current web page 215 is transferred to past panel 220. To accommodate this transfer, the present invention shift past web pages 225 by one web page location thereby eliminate one web page from past panel 220 (see col. 5, lines 46-50) and when the user 110 selects a particular past Web page 225 (for example, past Web page 225A), the particular past Web page 225 on past wall 320 becomes current Web page 215 on current 310. Likewise, when user 110 selects a particular future Web page 235 (for example, future Web page 235A), the particular future Web page 235 on future wall 330 becomes current web page 215 on current wall 310 (see col. 8, lines 20-28). However, any past Web pages 225 and future Web pages 235 may become sticky Web pages on their respective walls 320 and 330. When a user 110 designates a particular Web page 225, 235 as a sticky Web page, that Web page 225, 235 remains at the designated location on the respective wall 320, 330 regardless of changes in current Web page 215 (see col. 8, lines 28-35). These claim are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claim 3 (method), 14 (method), and 24 (computer readable medium); the limitation of designating at least one of said web pages as an always there page is performed by said user as the technique of when a user 110 designates a particular Web page 225, 235 as a sticky Web page, that Web page 225, 235 remains at the designated location on the respective wall 320, 330 regardless of changes in current

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Web page 215 (see col. 8, lines 28-35). These claim are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claims 4 (method), 15 (method), and 25 (computer readable medium); the limitations of positioning a cursor to one of said panels, said user performing an operation indicating a desire that said at least one Web page be designated as an always there page, and causing said page displayed within said panel within said cursor was positioned when the step of performing an operation was performed to be designated as said always there page are taught by Shuping as the technique of sticky Web pages may be transferred to a separate panel in browsing room 300 (e.g., another wall, a ceiling, a floor, etc.). In this embodiment, the user may also "drag and drop" the Web page 225, 235 to so-called "sticky surface" to designate the Web page as a sticky Web page (see col. 8, lines 45-49). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claims 7 (method) and 28 (computer readable medium); the limitation of designating at least one of said Web pages as an always there page is performed automatically responsive to meta-data contained in said at least one Web page is taught by Shuping as the technique of if a user designates future Web page 235A as a sticky Web page, future Web page 235A remains in the illustrated location regardless of new future web pages 235 generated from hyperlinks 240 on any new current pages 215 selected during subsequent browsing (see col. 8, lines 38-43). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claims 8 (method), 18 (method), and 29 (computer readable medium); the limitation of meta-data is embedded within said at least one Web page is taught by Shuping as the technique of current Web page 215 having one or more hyperlinks (illustrated as hyperlink 240A)(see col. 10, lines 3-5). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

As per claims 9 (method), 19 (method) and 30 (computer readable medium); the limitation of simultaneously displaying multiple Web pages in a manner that emulates at least three dimensional space is taught by Shuping as the technique of Fig. 9 illustrated a Web browser 900 operating in a three dimensional environment that includes a current panel 910, a plurality of past panels 920 and a plurality of future panels 930 (see col. 9, lines 60-63 and see Fig. 9). These claims are therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claims 10 (method), 20 (method), and 31 (computer readable medium); the limitation of wherein said spatial organization of Web pages corresponds to at least a three dimensional spatial interrelationship is taught by Shuping as the technique of Fig. 9 illustrated a Web browser 900 operating in a three dimensional environment that includes a current panel 910, a plurality of past panels 920 and a plurality of future panels 930. Other panels (not illustrated) such as a floor panel, a ceiling panel, a sticky page panel, etc.(see col. 9, lines 60-65 and see Fig. 9). These claims are therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

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As per claims 11 (method), 21 (method), and 32 (computer readable medium); the limitation of said page that would otherwise appear in a panel within always there page is not displayed is taught by Shuping as the technique of any past Web pages 225 and future Web pages 235 may become sticky Web pages on their respective walls 320 and 330. When a user 110 designates a particular Web page 225, 235 as a sticky Web page, that Web page 225, 235 remains at the designated location on the respective wall 320, 330 regardless of changes in current Web page 215 (see col. 8, lines 28-35). And when a user 110 selects a new Web page, current web page 215 is transferred to past panel 220. To accommodate this transfer, the present invention shift past web pages 225 by one web page location thereby eliminate one web page from past panel 220 (see col. 5, lines 46-50). These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

Reasons for allowance

6. Claims 5, 16, and 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 33-35 are allowed over the prior arts of record.

8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Examiner has carefully considered claim 5 of the presented application. Claims 16 and 26 are objected for the same reason applied to claim 5. The Examiner also

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carefully considered claim 33 of the presented application. Claims 34-35 are allowed for the same reasons applied to claim 33. None of the cited art including Shuping et al. (USPN: 6,313,855), Tsuda et al. (USPN: 6,577,330), Robertson et al. (USPNs: 6,486,895 and 5,670,984), Hearst et al. (USPN: 6,297,824), Czerwinski et al. (USPN: 6,188,405), Nakano et al. (USPN: 6,043,818), Horvitz et al. (USPN: 5,880,733) nor Eichel (USPN: 6,459,435) discloses, suggest, nor teaches the limitation of designating at least one of said Web pages as always there page performing by user operation further comprising the step of causing a menu to be displayed, said menu including an option to designate said at least one Web page as an always there page.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

9. Applicant's arguments filed on August/23/2004 have been fully considered, but they are not persuasive.

On the third paragraph of page 4, Applicant argues that "Eichel contains no disclosure concerning an "always there" page". Examiner agree that Eichel lacks of the teaching of "always there" page. However, as indicated by the Examiner in the previous Office Action, "always there" page is taught by Shuping as the technique of **when a user 110 designates a particular Web page 225, 235 as a sticky Web page, that**

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Web page 225, 235 remains at the designated location on the respective wall 320, 330 regardless of changes in current Web page 215 (see col. 8, lines 31-35).

On this same paragraph of page 4, Applicant further argues that " In fact, Eichel does not even disclose a web browser that shows more than one web page simultaneously". The Examiner, however, does not agree to this argument since Eichel discloses the limitation of "a web browser that shows more than one web page simultaneously" as the technique of a browser is an exemplary Web client for use in requesting Web pages and files from Web servers (see col. 8, lines 16-18). Thus, **users as Web clients can perform requesting and viewing Web pages and files from multiple Web servers**. In addition to Eichel, Shuping also discloses the limitation of "a web browser that shows more than one web page simultaneously" as the technique of rendering the current web page in a first panel, renders the past web page in a second panel, and renders a future web page in a third panels. The panels for rendering the various Web pages are provided in a three dimensional space (see col. 2, lines 35-46).

On the last paragraph of page 4 to the second paragraph of page 5, Applicant argues that " There is nothing in Eichel that contemplates anything other than a standard web browser and standard browsing techniques. In a standard web browser, only one web page is displayed at given instant. When one hyperlinks to another web page, the first web page disappears and is replaced by the new web page" and "removing the home page from the display and replacing it with the new page. That is

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basically opposite of the "always there" page, which remain in the same position on the display regardless of what the user does in connection with accessing and/or viewing other web pages". The Examiner, however, does not agree to these argument since Shuping discloses the feature of " always there" page as the technique of **when a user 110 designates a particular Web page 225, 235 as a sticky Web page, that Web page 225, 235 remains at the designated location on the respective wall 320, 330** regardless of changes in current Web page 215 (see col. 8, lines 31-35). Shuping further discloses likewise, if the **user 110 designates future web page 235A as a sticky web page, future web page 235A remains in the illustrated location regardless of new future web pages 235 generated from hyperlinks 240 on any new current web pages 215 selected during subsequent browsing** (see col. 8, lines 38-43). Thus, "sticky page" introduced by Shuping is equivalent and has the same fundamental of " always there" as in Applicant's invention since "sticky page" certainly remains in the same position on the display regardless of subsequent browsing generated by hyperlink.

On the first paragraph of page 6, Applicant argues that " The Office has not offered any evidence or explanation of where in the prior art this advantage or combination is suggested". The Examiner, however, does not agree to this argument since as indicated by the Examiner that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Eichel's teaching of designating said Web pages responsive to data contained in said at least one Web

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page and Shuping's teaching of sticky page invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing user capable of accessing any linked data contained in home page and also allowing user capable of assigning or designating any page as sticky page. Thus, the system would provide an enhanced tool to its end user wherein sticky page assigned by its end user remains in the same location regardless of any subsequent browsing from the Web.

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CUONG T THAI whose telephone number is (571) 272-4056. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Cabeca can be reached at (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CUONG T THAI



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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